

Traffic Ticket Basics for the County of Riverside

Superior Court of California, County of Riverside Self-Help Center

WHAT DO I DO WITH MY TRAFFIC TICKET?

You can do one of the following:

- 1. Pay the fine by the court date on the ticket.
- 2. Request an extension.
- 3. Ask for a court trial.
- 4. Traffic School

<u>Please note</u>: If the courtesy notice you received indicates a "mandatory appearance", you must appear at court.

1 Requesting an Extension

WAYS TO PAY FOR TRAFFIC TICKETS

ONLINE	epay-it.com/	You may pay your traffic fine in full, sign up for traffic school, sign up for a payment agreement, or make your monthly payments.
	www.moneygram .com/	Fee for use service. Use Receive Code 7660 when making a payment.
	www.checkfreepa	Fee for use service. Find a retail location near you at
	y.com/	https://www.checkfreepay.com/info/payinperson
PHONE	951-222-0384	You pay your fine in full or make payments (if you have previously set up payment arrangements) by telephone with a Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover card. This option is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Touch tone features are available in both English and Spanish.
	1-800-	Fee for use service. Use Receive Code 7660 when making a payment.
	MONEYGRAM	The for use service. Use Receive Code 7000 when making a payment.

MAIL	Payment Processing Center 505 S. Buena Vista Rm. 201 Corona, Ca. 92882	You may pay your fine by mail with a check, money order, or credit card information. Please make your check or money order payable to Riverside Superior Court and include your case number. If paying by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover, please complete and include the payment coupon located on the bottom of your courtesy notice.
IN PERSON	Check Free Pay Locations Court Locations Banning Blythe Corona Indio Moreno Valley	Fee for use service. Find a retail location near you at https://www.checkfreepay.com/info/payinperson The court's drop box is available for payments Monday through Friday from 7:30pm to 2:00pm, excluding court holidays. Court addresses are available through our website at https://riverside.courts.ca.gov/GeneralInfo/LocationsParking/locations-parking.php . To use the court's drop box, please include a check or money order
	MurrietaRiversideMoney Gram Locations	made out to Riverside Superior Court. Fee for use service. For the nearest location call 1-800-MONEYGRAM or www.MoneyGram.com . Use Receive Code 7660 when making a payment.

Financial hardship and Ability to Pay: If you have a financial hardship and can show that you are unable to pay the full amount of your traffic ticket, you may request the court to consider your ability to pay.

To request that the court consider your ability to pay, complete the local form <u>Petition for Ability-To-Pay Determination (RI-TR018)</u> and submit it to the court either in person or by mail.

Court locations include Banning, Blythe, Hemet, Indio, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, or Riverside. Court's hours of operation and addresses are available through our website at https://riverside.courts.ca.gov/GeneralInfo/LocationsParking/locations-parking.php.

2 Requesting an Extension

You are entitled to one 90-day extension from the appearance date on your ticket.

- You may request an extension online, by mail, or through the Court's automated telephone system at 951-222-0384.
- You may request an extension online through <u>ePay-it.com</u>.

• Extensions beyond 90 days must be written to the court for review by a judicial officer. The written request may be submitted via eSubmit, Mail, or Email.

3 Asking for a court trial or Trial by Declaration if you believe you are not guilty.

Please review information found at www.riverside.courts.ca.gov/Divisions/Traffic/traffic.php for "Requesting a Court Appearance" and "Contesting Your Traffic Ticket" to learn more about requesting a trial date. Court appearances can be scheduled at http://api.isd-corp.com/arraignments.

WHAT IF I WANT TO PLEAD NOT GUILTY BUT I AM UNABLE TO GO TO COURT?

You may submit a Request for <u>Trial by Written Declaration</u> (Form TR-205) at the Clerk's Office or by mail on any infraction that does not require a mandatory appearance. Trial by Written Declaration can be requested by submitting the full bail amount and the trial by written declaration paperwork to the Payment Processing Center at 505 S. Buena Vista, Room 201, Corona, CA 92882. Please make checks payable to "Riverside Superior Court." Payments for Trials by Written Declaration may not be posted online. You will be notified of the Court's decision by mail.

<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: Regardless of the manner in which trial is requested, you will be required to pay the full fine amount listed on your Courtesy Notice before a court trial will be scheduled. The money will be deposited in a trust account. The amount deposited will remain in the trust account pending the outcome of your trial. If you win your case, your deposit will be refunded. If you are found guilty, your deposit will be applied to the fine imposed.

For further information on preparing for court trials, please read the Questions about Court Trials found at https://riverside.courts.ca.gov/Divisions/Traffic/traffic.php

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOT SHOW UP FOR COURT?

Pursuant to California <u>Vehicle Code § 40903</u>, if you fail to appear and/or address the matter before the Court (by personal appearance, in writing, telephonically, or via the Internet), the court may proceed without you. A Trial will be calendared with the Court **and held in your absence**. The court will send no further notice to you. If you fail to appear or show good cause why you did not appear, a civil assessment (fine) will be imposed against you in the amount of \$300.00. The court will initiate a civil action against you, which may include a possible wage garnishment and/or lien against your property. In addition, the court will notify the Department of Motor Vehicles (<u>Vehicle Code § 40509.5</u>; <u>Vehicle Code§ 40002.1</u>, which may result in the suspension of your driver's license and a hold on your vehicle registration.

4 WHAT IS THE ADVANTAGE OF GOING TO TRAFFIC SCHOOL?

Traffic School will keep the ticket and any points off of your DMV record. You are NOT eligible for traffic school if you have gone to traffic school for another ticket that you got in the last 18 months. You cannot go to traffic school for ineligible offenses listed in the California Rules of Court, rule 4.104.

If you are eligible, you can request traffic school in one of the following ways:

- By calling 951-222-0384.
- Online at <u>ePay-it.com</u>.
- By mail. Please send a check or money order made payable to Riverside Superior Court for the full amount of your fine plus the \$59.00 Traffic School processing fee to:

Payment Processing Center, 505 S. Buena Vista Rm. 201 Corona, Ca. 92882

To schedule a telephone appointment with a court clerk, visit www.Riverside.Courts.CA.Gov/Appointments